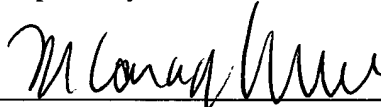


REMARKS

The present application has been amended to recite that it is the national stage filing of corresponding international application number PCT/EP2005/003058, filed March 22, 2005, which claims priority to and the benefit of the European application no. 04007388.4, filed March 26, 2004. Claims 1-14 are pending in this application. Claims 2-12 and 14 have been amended and are in compliance with 35 USC § 112. No fee is believed to be due with the filing of this Amendment. However, if any fees are deemed necessary, the Director is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-2168.

Favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Dated: September 7, 2006

M. Caragh Noone, Reg. No. 37,197

Bracco Research USA

305 College Road East

Princeton, NJ 08540

Tel: (609) 514-2454

Fax: (609) 514-2446